

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COA-02 CG-00 DLOS-07 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01

EB-11 COME-00 NIC-01 DRC-01 /142 W

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R 141030Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4604

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MP UR EFIS

SUBJECT: USSR - GOM FISHERIES AGREEMENT

1. AT END OF MY INITIAL COURTESY CALL LAST WEEK ON BURRENCHOBAY, PERM SECY IN PM'S OFFICE, HE REFERRED TO RECENT REPORT HE HAD RECIEVED FROM AMBASSADOR BALANCY IN WASHINGTON INDICATING INCREASING CONCERN IN US CIRCLES THAT USSR INFLUENCE WITH GOM GROWING. BALANCY APPARENTLY CITED, INTER ALIA, JUNE 3 NEWSWEEK REPORT WITH MAP OF INDIAN OCEAN SHOWING SOVIET FLAGS REPRESENTING SOVIET NAVAL FACILITIES IN THIS AREA INCLUDING MAURITIUS EQUATED WITH SUCH PLACES AS BERBERA, SOCOTRA AND UM QASR. BURRENCHOBAY REMONSTRATED THAT IT UNFAIR SO TO EQUATE SOVIET NAVAL AND FISHING ACCESS TO MAURITIUS. I AGREED.

2. PRESUMABLY TO ASSURE US THAT GOM TRYING TO BE CAREFUL AND CAUTIOUS ABOUT ITS RELATIONS WITH USSR, BURRENCHOBAY SAID WHILE GOM HAD RECENTLY SIGNED RENEWED FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH SOVS, FURTHER TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS ARE YET TO BE HELD IN WHICH PM HIMSELF WANTS TO LIMIT NUMBER OF SOV FISHING VESSELS TO 15 PER YEAR AND TO REQUIRE SOVS TO PROVIDE ADVANCE NOTICE FOR EACH VESSEL AS IN CASE OF ALL

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FOREIGN NAVAL VESSELS. BURENCHOBAY

FELT GOM WOULD BE ON THIN WICKET TO HOLD OUT FOR ADVANCE NOTIFICATIONS BECAUSE GOM HAS NEVER REQUIRED THIS FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS FROM ANY COUNTRY. HE ADDED GOM WELL AWARE THAT MANY SOV FISHING VESSELS CARRY "SPECIAL GEAR" AND SOVS NO DOUBT DESIGN SOME OF THIER FISHING AND OTHER VESSELS FOR DUAL PURPOSES TO HAVE MILITARY SUPPORT CAPABILITIES IN CASE OF NEED.

3. BURRENCHOBAY EXPECTED SOV FISHERIES TECHNICIANS TO ARRIVE HERE IN FEW WEEKS TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS. HE PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED AND PROVIDE US COPY OF SUBSIDIARY TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WHEN REACHED.
MANHARD

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